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AMENDMENT – Abstract

Please amend the application's abstract as follows:

The present invention is directed to methods for the identification and isolation of antigen-specific T cells using a novel class of artificial antigen presenting cells and methods of making artificial antigen presenting cells. The resulting T cells may be used to produce. Such artificial antigen presenting cells may be used in certain methods of isolating and expanding expanded T cell populations as well as for modulating T cell responses. Additionally, the present invention provides novel methods for the identification and isolation of antigen-specific T cells. In general, the artificial antigen presenting cells useful in such methods are The methods provide for the construction of liposomes that containing MHC:peptide complexes presented on the outer surface of the liposome. Such artificial antigen presenting cells may also include accessory molecules, co-stimulatory molecules, adhesion molecules, and other molecules irrelevant to T cell binding or modulation that are used in the binding of artificial antigen presenting cells to solid support systems that may be used in the retrieval and identification of antigen-specific T cells. Additionally, the present invention is directed to devices and methods for treating conditions which would benefit from modulation of T cell response, for example, autoimmune disorders, allergies, cancers, viral infections, and graft rejection.